

transiently infecting said transduced fibroblasts with a vector containing a muscle lineage commitment gene under the control of a strong promoter, said vector being selected from the group consisting of an adenovirus vector, a baculovirus vector and an adeno-associated viral vector.

12. (new) A method according to claim 11, wherein the rate of myogenic conversion is greater than 40%.

13. (new) A method according to claim 11, wherein the vector is an adenovirus vector.

14. (new) A method according to claim 11, wherein the muscle lineage commitment gene is selected from the group consisting of MyoD, Myf-5, MRF4 and myogenin.

15. (new) A method according to claim 14, wherein said gene is MyoD.

16. (new) A method according to claim 11, wherein said promoter is a viral promoter.

17. (new) A genetically- modified fibroblast transiently expressing a muscle lineage commitment gene.